



**Busch Agricultural
Resources, Inc.**
ONE OF THE ANHEUSER-BUSCH COMPANIES

Melvorn K. Anderson
President

January 2, 2003

A. J. Yates
Agriculture Marketing Service
United States Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave. Southwest
Room 3071, STOP 0201
Washington, DC 20250-0201

Dear Mr. Yates:

On December 11, Anheuser-Busch Companies (AB) submitted comments to you in opposition to the proposed hop marketing order. On behalf of Busch Agricultural Resources, Inc. (BARI), a subsidiary of Anheuser-Busch Companies (AB), I am also writing to voice our concern about the proposed order.

As the subsidiary that handles agricultural operations for AB, BARI owns and operates Elk Mountain Farm, a hop producing farm in northern Idaho. This operation produces 1800 acres of European varieties of aroma hops for our parent brewing company, Anheuser-Busch, Inc. We have not and do not market our hops but simply transfer them, in total each year, to Anheuser-Busch. No other U.S. grower produces any significant volume of European aroma hop varieties. Hence, we are not in competition with other hop growers in the United States. BARI operations are not and have not contributed to the problem currently being experienced by high-alpha hop producers in the United States. We do not produce high-alpha hops on our farm. In summary, we strongly oppose any hop marketing order since we believe it would unfairly penalize us and interfere with our Elk Mountain Farm operations.

We respectfully request your consideration of the above.

Sincerely,

Melvorn K. Anderson
President

Busch Agricultural Resources, Inc.
10733 Sunset Office Drive, Suite 400
St. Louis, Missouri U.S.A. 63127
(314) 909-3910
Fax (314) 909-3915